

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 NSC-05 OIC-02 EB-08

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 COME-00

AGRE-00 INT-05 AF-08 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 EPA-04

CEQ-01 /150 W

-----261130Z 118801 /12

R 260230Z MAR 77

FM USDEL MAR DEL PLATA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 085

INFO USUN NEW YORK 059

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

UNCLAS MAR DEL PLATA 0085

PAS WHITE HOUSE FOR BOURNE

CEQ FOR WARREN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN ONCON, SENV

SUBJECT: UN WATER CONFERENCE: WRAP-UP

1. UN WATER CONFERENCE ENDED FRIDAY NIGHT  
IN A SPIRIT OF HARMONY AND ACCOMPLISHMENT AS WELL AS  
OPTIMISM THAT, NOT ONLY WATER SECTOR, BUT FUTURE UN  
CONFERENCES WILL BENEFIT FROM THE TONE AND STYLE  
THAT WERE SET HERE. WILLINGNESS ON ALL SIDES,  
PARTICULARLY THE G-77, TO COMPROMISE EXTENDED THROUGH  
FINAL SESSION, INFLUENCING PARTICULARLY FINANCIAL  
ARRANGEMENTS, WHEN AFRICAN GROUP ACCEPTED FRENCH PROPOSAL  
OMITTING MENTION OF A NEW WATER FUND (A PRINCIPAL AFRICAN  
GOAL IN THE CONFERENCE.)

2. USDEL IS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH THE OUTCOME. NOT  
ONLY WAS CONFERENCE NOT POLITICAL (ALTHOUGH THERE WERE  
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MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR THAT TO HAPPEN), BUT US WAS ABLE  
TO INTRODUCE INTO COMMITTEE AND PLENARY DEBATE AND  
FINAL REPORT THE PRINCIPLES AND IDEAS USDEL WISHED TO  
PRESENT. US STATEMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS WERE WELL-  
RECEIVED, AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER DELEGATES WERE  
EXCELLENT.

3. SEVERAL IMPRESSIONS ARE WORTH NOTING. (A) COUNTRIES WORKED EXTREMELY HARD TO AVOID CONFRONTATION ON SHARED WATER RESOURCES.

IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT MAJOR WATER WORKS ON TRANSNATIONAL RIVERS WILL BE PLANNED AND IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT GREATER CONCERN ABOUT IMPACT ON, AND REACTION FROM, DOWNSTREAM COUNTRIES. (B) ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE BECOMING PART OF EVERY-DAY VOCABULARY AND THINKING, EVEN IN THE POOREST OF COUNTRIES, DESPITE CONTINUED ENVIRONMENTAL SACRIFICES IN THEIR PUSH FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

THERE IS CLEARLY GREATER CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE COSTS THAT ARE INVOLVED. (C) COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY EMERGED AS A PRIORITY CONCERN OF GOVERNMENTS BASED ON CONFERENCE DEBATE. ALSO, AS REFLECTED IN THE FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT GREATER ATTENTION SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON THE POOREST PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS. CLEARLY, DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL NOT CHANGE TARGETS IN PRIORITIES OVERNIGHT; BUT THIS CONFERENCE IS PERCEIVED AS HAVING TAKEN THE DIFFICULT STEP SINCE HABITAT, AND HAS FOCUSED WORLD-WIDE AWARENESS ON THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF THE RURAL POOR.

4. USDEL VIEWS OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE AS VIRTUALLY THE BEST WE COULD HAVE ANTICIPATED. STAGE IS ALSO SET FOR US TO RESPOND TO THE OPPORTUNITY AFFORDED BY FIRST VIRTUALLY NONPOLITICAL MEETING OF THIS TYPE.  
RAWLS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NATURAL RESOURCES, WATER CONSERVATION, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** OCON, SENV, PORG, EMIN, UN  
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**Type:** TE  
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